Willaura Primary School’s purpose is to provide programs and opportunities for each student to reach their academic, physical, social and emotional potential in a caring and stimulating learning environment so they are fully prepared for the next stage in their education and able to succeed as active and fulfilled members of their community.

Nine Values for Australian Schools
Doing Your Best
Freedom
Honesty and Trustworthiness
Fair Go
Understanding Tolerance and Inclusion
Respect
Responsibly
Care and Compassion
Integrity

School Rules
Be Nice
Be Honest
Be Safe
Be Positive
Be a Learner

You Can Do It!
Organisation
Resilience
Getting Along
Perseverance
Confidence
STUDENT AWARDS
Seth Welsh: for his creative story writing! Keep writing those ideas down!
Harry Evans: for his goal setting. He set challenging and achievable goals for himself.
Chelsey Turpin: for outstanding improvement in writing. Keep it up!

SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARD (from Miss Rae): to Casey and Terry Walker for all the work they do to help staff and students; thank you!
Ben Kumnick: for showing such persistence in creating his Spring Fair stall.
Sophie Gray: for working quietly and confidently throughout the whole Spring Fair process.

School News
A mix of photos this week—firstly some of our prize winning students and their art work from the Tatyoon Fleece and Floral Show; a photo of our sports equipment donated to all local schools by the Ararat Police; a photo of our new Prep/One teacher Miss Stephanie Schultz, who spent Tuesday in the P/1 classroom having a wonderful time with the students and Miss Jayde; and finally our beautiful chickens who hatched in the incubator at school—thanks Hannah, who has taken them home so they can grow before coming back to our chook house next year. I think I was more excited when they hatched than the students. Seeing those chickens struggle out of the eggs and gradually dry out and start to move around was wonderful.

Our students, as always, did so well at the local Tatyoon Show. Our place getters were as follows:
Rhys: best Year Prep 2D artwork (self portrait)
Emily: best Year 1 2D artwork (self portrait)
Lachlan: best Year 3 2D artwork (Japanese fish kite)
Ruby: honourable mention, Year 3 2D artwork (My Tree)
Ty: 2nd place, Year 4 2D artwork (My Family)
Ella: best Year 5 2D artwork (My Cat)
Lana: 2nd place, Year 6 2D artwork (Wildflowers)
Sophie G: best Year 6 creative writing
Sophie J: 2nd place, Year 6 creative writing
Ella: best Year 5 creative writing
Ben: 2nd place, Year 5 creative writing
Ella: best Year 5 handwriting
Georgiana: 2nd place, Year 5 handwriting
What a great result. Well done to all students, especially those listed above.

The Spring Fair was a wonderful event last Thursday. Students raised over $500, which goes towards our shade sail project. But more important than the profits are the learning outcomes from this event. The Year 4/5/6 students were amazing—they worked tirelessly to organise, plan, set up, run and pack up their stalls and activities. Miss Jayde and Miss Forbes had not seen our Spring Fair before, and they were absolutely amazed at the efforts of our senior students. Our Year P-3 students were also wonderful. We talked about how to manage money, how to speak nicely to the stall-holders, how to queue patiently and be thoughtful customers. The senior students all commented on how wonderful the junior students were. There were also some Year 3 students who helped out at very busy stalls. The whole day is a great example of teamwork and school spirit. A parent gave us some wonderful feedback this week—that our school had made their children so confident. It is events like the Spring Fair that build this confidence—how to speak to others, listen, think and plan, and students learn to trust their ability to work things out and respond to challenges. We talk about building children’s resilience so they are able to manage life’s challenges. Children learn resilience by facing and meeting smaller challenges. They then develop faith in their ability to cope when they face BIG challenges. It is SO important that we allow our children to face some things and learn to work them out. Or learn that it’s OK if not everything goes our way. Events like the Spring Fair are part of that process.
A HUGE THANK YOU TO PARENTS, who generously supported their children by making and donating items for the stalls and activities. This event could not run without you. Attached to the front of this newsletter is our Extra Curricular Survey. I know this is such a busy time for families, but if you could just quickly fill it out that would be a huge help.

Who hoo! It’s School Sleepover time :) Teachers are sending notes home, so please read carefully. This is a huge extra demand on teachers at this very busy time, so I hope all students are extra appreciative of everything their teachers do for them.

We have the Life Education Van at school on Tuesday 1st December. There is a Parent Information Session on Building Resilience from 9—10am (sheet attached). All parents and siblings welcome! There is a $5 charge per student for this program. The school is subsidising the cost to make it affordable.

Our Year 2—6 students are off to Moyston PS next Wednesday for a bike safety session and to try out their BMX track. Thanks to Hannah Jenkinson who has volunteered to drive a bus. A permission form is coming home. There is no charge for this excursion.

Our Year 4/5/6 students are visiting the Willaura Hospital today, showing some art work, reading out some creative writing, and performing a dance number. These visits both benefit the older residents of our community but also benefit the students, again building confidence, public speaking skills and a respect for all members of their community.

Have a great week,
Ms Knight

Classroom Reports
Hello parents, carers and friends of Prep/One,
As I am sure you are all aware now, sadly I will be leaving Willaura at the end of this year. I would just like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to you all. I have felt so lucky to share this journey with you all and feel so blessed to have been welcomed so wholeheartedly into your community. On to a brighter not we had another busy week in the prep/one room with another wonderful transition session for 2016’s preps. It was also the first chance that the prep/one’s got to meet their teacher for next year, Miss Stephanie. I have nothing but confidence in Miss Stephanie and her abilities and know her journey at Willaura will be wonderful.

Again a reminder about MARC van with books being due back this coming Monday as it is our last session. In literacy this week we are still producing and perfecting our narratives and working on turning them into books. We also continue looking back at strategies that good readers use. In particular we have been working on picking a good fit book in preparation for holidays. In numeracy we are asking simple questions and gathering responses so that we can represent this data with objects to form a graph. We look forward to seeing you at cooperative play.

Hello Friends and Family of Grade 2-3,
This week in our room we are beginning to finish off our stories for publishing. Although the students have written their stories with growing independence, we are still discussing the value of planning our writing. Good writers find planning valuable, even if it is just a diagram of characters, setting, problem and resolution. Student can then add a list of adjectives that they will use to describe people or the scene and some are beginning to use adverbs to make their writing more exciting. We are focusing on how we can also use a variety of punctuation to add more interest. In Numeracy, we are exploring maps...to have a reprieve from the rigor of number. Students truly enjoyed using Google Maps to find their homes and view them in a variety of ways...oh the laughs! As you know we are having a Grade 2-6 sleepover, as a celebration and bit of a treat. I hope students look forward to the evening and respect that the teachers are putting in a bit of effort to ensure a fun evening...without craziness.

Miss Rae

Senior Classroom
First and foremost, the Spring Fair was an absolute success last Thursday. All students in the 4,5,6, class are to be congratulated on the way that they planned and coordinated this event. Moreover, their enthusiasm and leadership on the actual day of the Spring Fair was outstanding. Again, I’d like to say a big thank you to our parents who helped these students throughout the entire process. Without your help and hard work it may not have been the success that it was. Admittedly, after such a big event our students virtually collapsed that afternoon! However, when feeling refreshed this week, they all answered questions reflecting on the things they enjoyed, the challenges and how they might do it differently if given another change. Today the 4,5,6, students are going to the Willaura hospital to perform ‘Thriller’ to the residents there and to read some winning creative writing pieces from the Tatyoon Show.

Miss Forbes
### November 2015

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<td>2 Pupil Free Day Kidsmatt</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup No School, Public Holiday</td>
<td>Lake Bolac Bands performing, 1.30pm</td>
<td>MARC</td>
<td>Poppies for sale</td>
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<td>9 School Council Bendigo Bank Sausage Sizzle</td>
<td>Playground Opening MARC</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Year 6 Melbourne Excursion</td>
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<td>16 T20 Blast Cricket Ararat 3/4/5/6</td>
<td>Meet a Lifeguard—water safety session 2.20-3.20</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Prep 2016 Transition</td>
<td>4/5/6 Hospital Performance</td>
<td>24/27 Prep 2016 Transition</td>
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<td>30th Nov MARC (final visit)</td>
<td>Life Education P-6</td>
<td>2-6 BMX excursion, Moyston PS</td>
<td>Prep/1 Sleepover</td>
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<td>Prep 2016 Transition</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>END OF YEAR CELEBRATION Town Hall</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17 Student’s Last Day!</td>
<td>18 Pupil Free Staff only</td>
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